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CHICAGO AREA FINANCE LEADERS CONVENE AT FINANCIAL SERVICES PIPELINE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SUMMIT  
*Industry Leaders Discuss Collective Action to Increase Diversity throughout Their Ranks*

CHICAGO (October 11, 2017) – More than 120 leaders from Chicago’s top financial services firms and community partners will convene on Friday, October 20 to discuss solutions and action needed to increase diverse representation within Chicago’s financial sector at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Financial Services Pipeline (FSP) Summit.

The event will be led by John W. Rogers, Jr., Chairman and CEO of Ariel Investments, and Matt Feldman, President and CEO of Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, who were recently appointed as the new co-chairs for FSP. Dr. Helene Gayle, President and CEO of the Chicago Community Trust, will also serve as co-chair. The co-chairs will address the Summit attendees and discuss how they plan to work together to carry out the organization’s mission.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, an FSP member firm, will host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual FSP Summit at its landmark building in downtown Chicago.

“The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago is excited to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual FSP Summit. Our collective work and collaboration are not only essential in creating the pipeline, but also important in retaining diverse talent,” said Nokihomis Willis, Senior Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer and Chief Diversity Officer for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. “The goal of FSP is to make sure African-American and Latino candidates not only feel prepared to enter the industry, but when they arrive, they have the tools and resources to reach new heights of professional success. Ultimately, we know that in a global economy having diverse perspectives in our organizations helps us stay competitive and builds stronger communities.”

The theme of the Summit this year is *Advancing Cultural Transformation*. Andrés Tapia, Senior Client Partner and Global Diversity & Inclusion Solutions Leader for Korn Ferry, will deliver the keynote address. Tapia will share his perspective on “next-generation diversity” and how this approach is key for companies that wish to move the needle on diversity and inclusion (D&I). Tapia is the author of “The Inclusion Paradox: The Obama Era and the Transformation of Global Diversity.” He is one of the leading voices in shaping an approach to D&I that incorporates cultural competency and the business imperative to enable success.

Since its inception in 2013, the FSP has involved more than a dozen financial services industry firms who collectively raise awareness of the need to elevate African-American and Latino candidates at all levels within the industry. This year at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual FSP Summit, critical information and progress of the initiative will be shared in three areas: informing young students about the industry’s professional opportunities and pathways, recruiting and hiring, and developing and retaining diverse talent. The event will also debut new research on the representation of African-Americans and Latinos in the Chicago-area financial sector and a discussion of best practices that foster retention.

The FSP Annual Summit is closed to the public; however, research findings and event recap information will be available post-event at [FSPChicago.org](http://FSPChicago.org).

## **About FSP**

The FSP Initiative was founded in 2013 by a group of Chicago-based financial institutions that joined forces to address the lack of diversity in the financial services sector in Chicago. The goals of the FSP Initiative are: 1) to increase the representation of Latinos and African Americans, at all levels, within the financial services industry within Chicago and 2) to improve the overall cultural competency of the industry in the region. FSP members include Ariel Investments, BMO Harris Bank, CME Group, Discover, Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Holland Capital Management, Illinois State Treasurer's Office, Loop Capital, Madison Dearborn Partners, Mesirov Financial, Morgan Stanley, Northern Trust, The Chicago Community Trust, CIBC, U.S. Bank, Urban Partnership Bank, William Blair and Wintrust Financial Corporation. For more information on FSP, please visit [FSPChicago.org](https://www.fspchicago.org) or follow on Twitter [@FSPChicago](https://twitter.com/FSPChicago) and [FSP Chicago on LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/fsp-chicago).

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